

Appl. No. 10/018,606
Amdt. dated April 24, 2004
Reply to Office action of October 17, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-26 are present in the application. Claims 1, 2, 13, 15, 16 and 26 are amended herein. Claim 14 is canceled.

A notice of appeal was filed April 16, 2004, and this present amendment is respectfully requested to be considered and entered, as it is believed to put the application into allowable form, and if not, to put the application in a more suitable form for continuing with the appeal.

The Examiner has rejected claims 2 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph alleging they are indefinite. Applicant respectfully traverses.

While it is believed that the claims are definite, claims 2 and 15, 16 have been amended to clarify what is meant, with attention to the points mentioned by the Examiner. Claim 14 is canceled and language therefrom is added to claim 13.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1,3,4,8, 12, 25 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Okamoto et al. U.S. Pat No 6,144,269. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 1 and 26 are amended in order to emphasize the structural differences between applicant's claimed invention and the device(s) shown in the patent(s) cited by the Examiner. Amended claim 1 recites that the "other conductor" is "interposed between the inductor conductor and the substrate"

Appl. No. 10/018,606
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and that "a lead wire of the inductor conductor" extends "between the other conductor, and the substrate." This feature is probably best shown in FIG. 5 of the present application, where it can be seen that lead 132, connected to the inductor conductor 120 by way of hole 150 extends between conductor 122 and substrate 110. The inductance characteristics of the claimed circuit are improved by way of this novel arrangement, as shown by the experimental results detailed in the present application at pages 11-14. No similar structure is shown or described or suggested by Okamoto et al. or any of the other prior art cited by the Examiner. There appears to be no suggestion in any of the cited prior art of bringing the conductive lead from one coil around another coil, to achieve enhanced performance. Indeed, with respect the teachings of Okamoto et al., the entirely different scale of the device shown and the lack of a conductive or semi conductive substrate obviates the need for any such innovation. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentably distinct from all of the prior art disclosures cited by the Examiner.

Claims 3, 4, 8 and 12 are patentably distinct over the cited prior art for at least the reason that claim 1, on which they depend, is patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

Claims 25 is patentably distinct over the cited prior art for the same reason as claim 1, because claim 25 recites, "said

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lead portion being between said second conductor and said substrate***." Claim 26 is patentably distinct over the cited prior art both because it depends on patentably distinct claim 25, but also because it includes the further patentably distinct limitation of including a variable capacitance diode or a FET, in the manner indicated by the claim language.

In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 2, 5-7, and 9-11, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okamoto et al. in view of either Mizoguchi et al. U.S. Pat No 5,583,474, Naoto EP 0643402A2 or simply "design choice." Applicant respectfully traverses and submits that all of these claims are patentable over the cited prior art for at least the reason that claim 1, from which they all depend is patentable over the cited prior art.

The Examiner has rejected claims 13, and 17-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Okamoto et al. in view of Mizoguchi et al, and in the case of claim 23, Nauto. Claim 13, as noted above, is amended to incorporate the teachings of claim 14, which has been rejected only under 35 U.S.C. §112, and not on the basis that it is rendered unpatentable by any prior art. With the amendment of claim 13, the rejections of claim 17 through 23 are all addressed, as these claims depend on claim 13, either directly or indirectly.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's application of the various documents, whether considered alone

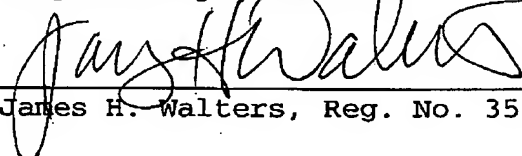
Page 10 — RESPONSE (U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 10/018,606)
[\\Files\\Files\\Correspondence\\April 2004\\a417rtoa042404.doc]

Appl. No. 10/018,606
Amdt. dated April 24, 2004
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or whether considered in combination, would not result in teaching or suggestion of applicants' claimed invention.

In light of the above noted amendments and remarks, this application is believed in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is asked to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


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